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ER 7-0634

25 May 1955

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Special Assistant to the Assistant Director, Research and Reports

**SUBJECT:** Proposed External Research Project, "Agricultural Economy of USSR" (PRC DD/I-25955)

**REFERENCE:** Memorandum for PRC Through DD/I from AD/RR, Same Subject, Dated 17 May 1955

1. SSRG (Defense, State, USIA, OCB, and FOA) coordination has now been completed and no objections have been raised to the proposed project. Specific comments received are as follows:

USIA:

Recommends that "... special attention be paid to the progress and potentialities of the enormous agricultural plan undertaken by the Soviets in Kazakhstan, where 70,000,000 acres are to be cultivated in a semi-arid area ostensibly unsuitable for profitable cultivation.

"Similarly, any evaluation of the new corn belt area proposed by Khrushchev would be extremely useful for possible exploitation by the USIA."

State:

Has no further comment than that given in the EIC coordination.

2. I would appreciate information as the project gets underway on accommodation of the USIA suggestion. FOA expressed an interest in the project.

State Department review completed

PCS/DCI: [redacted] (25 May 1955)  
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Planning and Coordination Staff

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